Delay/Cancellation of Indian Airlines Flight

625. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of the difficulties and ordeals through which passengers having proper tickets for specific flights have to undergo when the respective flights are inordinately delayed or cancelled;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in the matter;

(c) what amenities Government proposes to provide to passengers in such circumstances; and

(d) what are the details of the proposed arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Government are aware of the difficulties of the passengers in case of delayed/cancelled flights.

(b) to (d) On the advice of the Government, several measures have been taken by Indian Airlines to provide amenities to passengers when flights are delayed/cancelled:—

Provision of accurate information to passengers through the media and other means.

Increase in the number of telephones and auto-answering machines.

Installation of HF-SSB sets at more stations to communicate flight information between stations promptly.

Dissemination of information through tele-text at Delhi.

Provision of more Customer Service Units.

Provision of meals and stay at hotels in case of delays of longer duration.

Designating officers for supervision at different locations and providing assistance in the matter of refunds, taxi vouchers, hotel accommodation, retrieval of baggage etc.

Settlement with the Union Carbide Company

626. Shri P. N. SUKUL:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister o f PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to have re-examined the settlement earlier arrived at with the Union Carbide Company for providing relief to Bhopal Gas disaster victims; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have decided to support the petitioners for review of the Settlement Order dated 14-2-1989 and 15-2-1989 of the Supreme Court. Government have also decided that criminal liability of the Union Carbide Corporation and Union Carbide (India) Ltd., should not be done away with. Government have also decided to pay Interim Relief to all residents in the 36 severely effected wards of Bhopal.

Execution of Tehri Project

627. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Tehri Project on the river Bhagirathi and Bhilanganga is being stalled;

(b) whether it is a fact that there have been sharp differences between the Soviet Union Engineers and U.P. Government P.W.D. Engineers on the construction of the project;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The Government had, in November, 1986, decided to implement the Tehri Hydro Power Complex (2400 MW), which includes Tehri Dam Project, as a joint venture of the Government of India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh, and to seek Soviet technical and financial assistance for the same. There has been no change in this decision.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The project is expected to be completed by June 1997.

Payment made by M/s Sumitomo Corporation of Japan to M/s Jyotsna Holding Limited

628. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 93 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1989 and state;

(a) what is the outcome of the inquiry made by ONGC about payments made by M/s. Sumitomo Corporation to M/s. Jyotsna Holding Limited with reference to conditions in the tender documents in respect of an ONGC contract;

(b) what follow up action has been taken so far and with what results; and

(c) what further action has been taken on the basis of the legal advice obtained by ONGC in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) to (c) According to the legal opinion obtained by the ONGC from the then First Additional Solicitor General of India, the remuneration paid by M/s. Sumitomo Corpn. to M/s. Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. is in violation of Clause 31 of the Tender conditions. He has further opined that action can be taken by not giving further business of ONGC to the consortium of Japanese Firms which functioned under the name of M/s Sumitomo Corporation. ONGC have been instructed to take action accordingly. ONGC have also been advised to take recourse to arbitration or to file a suit for appropriate relief. ONGC has initiated action in this regard.

All Public Sector Undertakings under this Ministry have also been advised that no further business should be given to the Consortium of the Japanese firms and its constituents which functioned in the name of M/s. Sumitomo Corporation.

Submission of Audit reports of Joint stock companies to Parliament

629. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the audit reports of the joint stock companies submitted to Government are periodically presented to Parliament; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to make compulsory for